Author’s response to reviews

Title: HLA and proteasome expression body map

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Medical Genomics,

please find below our responses to the questions and suggestions of Reviewer #3 and the editors. In addition, we revised the manuscript according to these questions and suggestions.

Reviewer 3:

Q1. To tie in the data shown here with the immunological literature, the previous gene alias for PSMB8 and PSMB9 should be given, namely LMP2 and LMP7 respectively.

A1: We thank the reviewer for pointing that out. We linked the gene aliases for all immunoproteasome compartments throughout the text.

Q2. The authors have, of course, only given a small snapshot of genes whose products are involved in antigen processing and presentation. They could, for example, have profiled TAP1 and TAP2, the peptide transporter genes. Interestingly TAP1 and LMP2 share a common bidirectional gene promoter and so it would be very interesting to know if these transcripts are coordinately regulated. It is accepted that this is another piece of work but this reviewer considers that it would greatly enhance the paper. TAP2 and Tapasin would also be interesting.
A2: We are very grateful for this very interesting suggestion. We analyzed expression of TAP1 and TAP2, as well as the correlation of PSMB9 and TAP2 expression. The results are added as Figure S8, Table S8 and are discussed in the text.

Editor Comments:

1. Please include the email addresses for all authors on the title page. The corresponding author should still be indicated.

A1: We now included all mail addresses on the title page. The corresponding author is still indicated as the first author, Sebastian Boegel.

2. Please change the Introduction heading to Background.

A2: Done.

3. The individual contributions of ALL authors to the manuscript should be specified in the Authors’ Contributions section. Guidance and criteria for authorship can be found here:

http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship

A3: We have now added the individual contributions of all authors.

4. Please note that anyone included in the Acknowledgements section must be notified and agree to their names being included, please remove the reviewers’ names if they are not aware or have agreed.

A4: As we have no chance to contact the reviewers for asking consent, we decided to leave the names out and instead thanking „the three reviewers“.

5. Please include all of additional files in one Additional File list, please do not separate this into Table and Figures.

A5: We changed that.

6. Please provide figure titles/legends under a separate heading of 'Figure Legends' after the References. If Figure titles/legends are within the main text of the manuscript, please move them.

Figure files should contain only the image/graphic, as well as any associated keys/annotations. If titles/legends are present within the figure files, please remove them.
A6: We are sorry for this error. We changed that.

7. Please state whether figure 1 is your own or taken from another source.

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A7: We indicated in the caption of figure 1, that we retrieved the organ pictures from wikipedia and that these pictures are under public domain.